

CLAIMS

1. Vaccine intended for the treatment and/or prevention of diseases of infectious origin, the infectious agent having at least one intracellular phase in the host during its multiplication cycle, characterized in that it comprises at least one cryptic epitope of a cellular component carried away by an intracellular infectious agent during its passage outside the cell and which is exposed by the infectious agent.
2. Vaccine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the infectious agent consists of an intracellular parasite or an enveloped virus.
3. Vaccine according to Claim 2, characterized in that the virus is chosen from HIV, CMV and HPV.
4. Composition intended for the treatment or for the prevention of HIV infections, characterized in that it comprises, as active ingredient, at least one peptide corresponding to sequences id No. 1 to 22 or an equivalent sequence.
5. Composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that the peptide is bound to a carrier system.
6. Composition according to Claim 5, characterized in that the carrier system consists of one or more protein fragments linked to the N- or C-terminal end of the peptide by a peptide bond.
7. Composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that the carrier system is linked to the peptide by a nonpeptide bond.
8. Composition according to one of Claims 4 to 7, characterized in that the peptide has the R7V sequence.
9. Composition according to one of Claims 4 to 8, characterized in that it comprises several peptides.
10. Composition according to one of Claims 4 to 9, characterized in that the carrier system is chosen from albumins, KLH and MAP.
11. Composition according to one of Claims 4 to 10, characterized in that it comprises, in addition, nonspecific immunity adjuvants.
12. Composition intended for the treatment and

prevention of HIV infections, characterized in that it comprises a DNA sequence encoding a peptide according to one of the sequences id No. 1 to 22 or an equivalent sequence.

5 13. Composition according to Claim 12, characterized in that the DNA sequence encodes a peptide carrying the peptide sequence, sequence id No. 1 to 22 or an equivalent sequence.

10 14. Composition according to Claim 13, characterized in that the DNA sequence is preceded by the sequence ensuring its expression in a host cell.

~~15~~ 15. Composition according to one of Claims 12 to 14, characterized in that the DNA sequence is carried by an expression vector.

15 16. Composition according to Claim 15, characterized in that the expression vector is in autonomous replication.

17. Composition according to Claim 15, characterized in that the expression vector is a vector for chromosomal integration.

~~20~~ 18. Composition according to one of Claims 15 to 17, characterized in that the expression vector is a bacterial plasmid.

25 19. Composition according to one of Claims 15 to 18, characterized in that the expression vector consists of all or part of a defective and/or nonpathogenic virus.

20. Composition according to one of Claims 1 to 19, characterized in that the peptide is expressed in a host cell.

30 21. Composition according to Claim 20, characterized in that said cell is a eukaryotic or plant cell.

~~35~~ 22. Antibodies directed against a peptide used in one of the compositions according to one of Claims 1 to 21.

23. Composition comprising at least one antibody according to Claim 22.

24. Method for diagnosing patients who do not progress, characterized in that the presence of antibodies according to Claim 19 is detected by an immunological test.

25. Method according to Claim 24, characterized in that the immunological test is an ELISA or RIA test.

[illegible]